

Message Text

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10

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-10 SCCT-01 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OC-05 CCO-00 OPR-02

EB-07 FAA-00 SCS-03 FBO-02 DHA-02 AID-05 USSS-00

SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SY-05 DOTE-00 /096 W

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O 230810Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6766

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 13141

DELIVER TO NEA/ARN, DAY AT OPENING OF BUSINESS.

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE

SUBJECT: 0900 LEBANON REPORT

1. BEIRUT EARLY THIS MORNING EXTREMELY NOISY WITH HEAVY-ISH MORTAR/ROCKET AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE BEGINNING ABOUT 0400. BEIRUT RADIO THIS MORNING RELATIVELY OPTIMISTIC BUT ROADS INTO TOWN NOT REPEAT NOT BEING USED VERY MUCH AND TRAFFIC STILL LIGHT. NEW AREA OF ACTIVITY LATE YESTERDAY AND LAST NIGHT WAS DAMASCUS ROAD ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN, IE. AS FAR AS ALEY. THIS IS FIRST TIME THIS ROAD HAS BEEN CUT AND PEOPLE ALL THE MORE NERVOUS, FOR DAMASCUS ROAD IS ONE OF THE MAIN EXITS, NOT ONLY TO SYRIA BUT ALSO TO THE STILL PEACEFUL MOUNTAIN AREA.

2. KIDNAPPING USIA EMPLOYEES AND MURDER OF TWO PLO OFFICIALS, ONE IN KAHLE, CHRISTIAN MOUNTAIN AREA NEAR ALEY, AND THE OTHER IN SIMEL FIL, CHRISTIAN AREA IN BEIRUT, HAVE HEIGHTENED TENSIONS. GALLAGHER-DYKES HEADLINED IN MORNING PRESS

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AND L'ORIENT LE JOUR SAID THEIR KIDNAPPING IS ONE

OF MAJOR SUBJECTS KARAME MUST HANDLE IN PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATE SCHEDULED FOR LATER TODAY.

3. NOTHING OF IMPORTANCE IN PRESS RE MEETINGS IN DAMASCUS.
PIERRE EDDE TOLD ME YESTERDAY, HOWEVER, THAT ASAD ENDEAVOR-
ING CONVINCE JUMBLATT AND HIS LEFTIST ASSOCIATES TO JOIN
CABINET TOGETHER WITH PIERRY GEMAYEL.

4. AMERICAN SCHOOL OPENED TODAY BUT AMERICAN COMMUNITY
VERY NERVOUS. PAN AMERICAN OVERFLYING BEIRUT TODAY BUT
ALLEGEDLY NOT TOMORROW. LOCAL MANAGER STATES THIS DUE GALLAGHER-
DYKES KIDNAPPING AND TIMIDITY OF FLIGHT CREWS. PAN AM
MANAGER, WHO HAD SEEN MAN MURDERED IN FRONT OF HIM, IS
NOT HIS USUAL COOL SELF. DAILY STAR AND L'ORIENT LE
JOUR AND TOMORROW AN NAHAR CARRY FRONT PAGE AD TO AMERICANS
TO RE-REGISTER. THIS FOLLOWS SIMILAR ACTION BY BRITISH,
GERMAN, ITALIAN AND SPANISH EMBASSIES.

5. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR DIED YESTERDAY.
GODLEY

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NNN

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